UNDP

# UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

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ENGLISH

APPROVAL OF UNDP ASSISTANCE TO A PROJECT OF
EGYPT

IPF:(1987-91) $ 39 432 000

(EGY/88/012) - Technical Support to Agricultural Development and Settlement in Noubaria (Phase II) (Supplementary Assistance)

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| Date of approval: | 16 May 1991 |
| Expected duration: | Three years |
| Proposed executing agency: | Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) |
| Government implementing agency: | Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reclamation (MOA) |
| Proposed UNDP contribution: | $ 54 000 Source of funds: IPF |
| Previous UNDP contribution: | $ 370 000 |
| Total UNDP budget: | $ 424 000 |

## Project background

The economic exploitation of the newly reclaimed lands in Egypt is a cornerstone of the Government's agricultural development strategy. It aims, inter alia, at expanding Egypt's productive land base, enhancing agricultural production, creating employment opportunities in the newly established communities and alleviating growing pressures in the congested old lands (Delta and Nile Valley).

Completion of the Noubaria Development Scheme (1991) is expected to increase agricultural land by 350,000 feddans and at the same time generate about 75,000 job opportunities in the region. There are at present 30 villages in Noubaria inhabited by about 6,000 families (30,000 individuals). These are expected to reach 50,000 families by 1991.

The above-mentioned project aims at providing technical support to the development directorates of the General Authority for Rehabilitation Projects and Agricultural Development (GARPAD) in order to increase agricultural production and improve the socio-economic conditions of university graduates and small holders. /...

Phase I of the project started in early 1986 in one area (West Noubaria); hence UNDP assistance was provided in the fields of irrigation and water management, agricultural mechanization, fruit and vegetable production and livestock improvement.

The success of the above-mentioned scheme requires regular backstopping, monitoring and follow-up by GARPAD's development directorates in order to help these settlers adapt to a new desert environment and develop new agricultural/irrigation practices suitable for the conditions and soils of the new lands. To this end, the Government has requested UNDP assistance under the present project.

## Description of project

Phase II of the project currently seeks to build and expand on the first phase and covers three regions instead of one (West Noubaria, El Bustan and Sugarbeet). Project activities will include:(a) conducting rational use of water by improving on-farm irrigation methods and practices, implementing appropriate farming systems for settlers to increase their income, establishing windbreaks and shelters to prevent sand movement and crop damage and thereby conserve the environment, expanding mechanized operations for crop production in order to meet the existing labour shortage, designing appropriate research programmes to provide practical solutions to settlers problems, involving women in productive activities and using their land as demonstration/extension plots; (b) growing wheat in the desert (5,000 feddans) as a pioneering activity; and (c) attracting follow-up investment by WFP, IFAD and the World Bank.

## Inputs

UNDP will provide four experts in irrigation fertilizer technology (3.5 man-months), poultry production, nursery technology (0.9 man-months), and marketing corporation; administrative support; UN Volunteers; national professionals; fellowships, group and in-service training; field and headquarters purchasing equipment; and miscellaneous costs.

## Financial data

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| Personnel | 16 000 |
| Training | 10 300 |
| Equipment | 19 500 |
| Miscellaneous | 8 200 |
| Total | 54 000 |

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